

## 2022 YEAR IN REVIEW

The Canvass continued surveying Capitol Hill senior staffers about the key issues driving Washington and expanded its reach to include K Street senior leaders, bringing you an insider's perspective on what is actually happening on the Hill, K Street, and in the midterm elections. What follows are our top five takeaways from The Canvass 2022.

## METHODOLOGY

- Survey of Capitol Hill chiefs of staff, legislative directors, communications directors, press secretaries, and staff directors conducted in Feb., March, May, July, Sept., and Nov. 2022
- Survey of K Street senior leaders from across the corporate, lobbying, trade association, non-profit, and think tank industries conducted in April, June, Aug., and Oct. 2022

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### The Canvass is **PREDICTIVE** and has the pulse of the voters.

- Capitol Hill correctly predicted the outcome of all 9 of the 9 top Senate races in AZ, CO, FL, GA, NC, NV, OH, PA, and WI. K Street correctly predicted the outcome of 8 of the 9 top Senates races — only getting Nevada wrong.
- The Canvass also correctly identified the most important issues that would define the midterms confirmed afterward by exit polls: inflation, the economy, abortion, and crime and public safety.



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### The Canvass forecasted a challenging but **PRODUCTIVE** legislative year.

- While many assumed provisions within BBB were dead when initial negotiations fell apart in early 2022, Capitol Hill and K Street were both reporting through The Canvass that many issues were very much alive all year.
- The Canvass also correctly identified what issues were NOT likely to pass, including abortion rights protections that many believed would be passed after the Dobbs decision.



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### The next Congress will focus on **INFLATION** and **TECH** regulation.

- Most do NOT believe the next Congress will be as effective as the outgoing one, but there are a few issues where The Canvass respondents are optimistic Democrats and Republicans can find common ground.
- Early indications are that tackling inflation and regulating tech and social media companies are key areas where both parties can find common ground.



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### There is a **GAP** between Biden's achievements and communication.

- The Canvass has identified for months that President Biden's biggest challenge isn't policy; it's messaging and communication.
- Despite a prolific first two years featuring several major pieces of legislation becoming law, there are more Democrats in agreement that Biden's communication on key issues has been **INEFFECTIVE** than actually consider his term a success so far.



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### Dems have become more **UNITED** and the **GOP** more divided.

- Despite entering 2022 with momentum at their backs, Republicans **UNDERPERFORMED** in the midterms thanks to a combination of contentious Supreme Court cases, unpopular Senate candidates, and former President Trump — all of which Democrats were able to exploit to their advantage.
- Capitol Hill and K Street recognized when the momentum was **SHIFTING** and provided unique, predictive insight into how legislation and the elections would be impacted.

